

# Yellowstone News

Volume 1, Issue 4

August 2004

## ***Congratulations Jean & Bill Guza***

Jean Nuetzel and Bill Guza were married on June 26, 2004, at the Gallatin Gateway Inn. Bill Young officiated, and the wedding was attended by many family members and friends. The couple honeymooned in Canada. (Jean has changed her name to Jean Guza).



The happy couple honeymooning in Canada

**Check us out at:** [www.nps.gov/yell/newsletter.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/yell/newsletter.pdf)

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## ***Thanks for the Memories***

Well I can't believe it's been six months since you all kicked me out of there. I am writing to convey my great thanks for a wonderful life in Yellowstone and a great retirement party. Big thanks to Brian Chan, Charissa & Tim Reid, Mike Ross for forcing me through that party-process. It was worth it as you all said it would be and the roasting was - bearable : \* ). If I left anybody else out who played a major role in planning the retirement party, my apologies and thanks. And thanks for attending and wishing me and Jane well. My 15+ years spent at Yellowstone were some of the best years of my life. After spending nearly 30 years working for Uncle Sam and the NPS changing gears has been a challenge. However, the compressed paramedic that inhaled me in January has kept me more than busy. I've barely had any breathing room, but have been having fun. I'm just in Bozeman so if you see me out an about, please don't run me over and definitely stop to say hi. I'll do the same. I still have plans to visit many of you in the years to come.

Cheers  
Bundy Phillips

## **YFEA Video Library Additions**

YFEA members can check out movies free in the Backcountry office on the third floor of the Admin building.

Here are the recent additions to the YFEA video library...

McLintock  
Major Payne  
Billy Madison  
Casino  
Last Samurai, the (DVD)  
Triplets of Belleville, the (DVD)  
Osama (DVD)  
Cat in the Hat, the (DVD)  
Big Fish (DVD)  
Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King (DVD)

## ***North to Alaska!***



David, Colette and Ann about to leave for the summit



Getting onto the Summit Ridge - Mt Foraker in the Background



Coming Down - somewhere around the 13,000 foot level

## **Ann Rodman, Colette Daigle-Berg & David Thoma** **Summit Denali**

Nineteen days, 50 miles, 25,000 vertical feet ascended, starting with more than 125 pounds of food, fuel & gear each, three Yellowstone folk (past and present) hit the top of 20,320 foot Mt. McKinley on June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2004. Bill Berg and Colette's brother, Mike, rounded out the team of five.

Hoping to fly to the Kahiltna Glacier on May 25<sup>th</sup>, the group enjoyed the soggy sights of Talkeetna instead, finally catching the next weather window on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Anxious to begin, we regrouped and put in a 23-hour day, from hanger to some 5 miles up the route.

Sleeping through the next day to continue a transition to a night-time schedule, we started ferrying loads up the mountain. With 24 hours of working light, the cooler temps of night make for safer travel over sketchy snow bridges and eased the inevitable beating from the sun. We switched back to a day shift at 11,000 feet.

It needn't always take 2 trips to get 3 weeks of gear up the hill, but it makes sense to do it for acclimatization reasons. Conventional wisdom is to carry high and camp low to give the lungs a chance to catch up with where the legs have taken them. The routine is to set up camp, haul a load 2 or 3 thousand feet higher the next day, then move camp the day after. With variations on this theme, we moved camps from 7,400 feet to 11,200, then 14,200, and finally 17,200. With a couple of rest days thrown in, and a little pharmaceutical help from Diamox, we actually felt pretty good--and hadn't lost a day--by the time we settled in at 17,200 feet in a snow storm--a storm that pinned us down for 5 nights.

The comforts of life at 17,200 feet in sub-zero temps, with a nice wind chill, with 5 packed in a tent (to save weight), wore a bit thin. The food and fuel supply was wearing thin too. Then Mike's health took a turn for the worse, and we had to get him down. Bill had been to the top of Denali before and elected to retreat to 14,200 feet with Mike as the weather eased a bit on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

It takes a 12-14 hour weather window to summit from 17,200 feet. You can never be

## **Health and Life Insurance Benefits:**

Please make sure you and/or your spouse have adequate health and life insurance cover to meet your needs. If you are not adequately covered, there will be an open season for health insurance November 10 - December 8, 2004. There will also be an open season for life insurance September 1 - 30, 2004. More information on these open seasons will be sent to you in the near future. **Also, please remember that you must be covered by health and/or life insurance for 5 years previous to your retirement in order to carry these benefits into retirement.**

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**HELP! BOZEMAN PROPERTY OWNERS:** We need a place to stay in Bozeman from the start of the school year until our house construction is completed. We are seeking a Bozeman home, apartment or condominium from the end of August through October or mid-November. We are also willing to house-sit or use a residence during weekdays and vacate for the weekends. Call Bob Seibert at 406-646-7314.

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*Billie Jo Saueressig is the daughter of Kris Peters, Administrative Assistant in Mammoth for the NPS.*

The Miss National Pre-Teen of Montana Pageant was held in Billings on July 9-11, 2004 and I won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Photo Miss, and 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Portfolio competitions. My photo will now go on to the National Finals in Orlando, Florida in November to compete with the winners from the other 49 states. Without your support it would not have been possible for me to pursue my dream.

### ***Recent Goodbyes***

Sandi LeFevre to Maritime NHS  
Debbie Lennox to Great Falls, MT  
Kurt Olofson to USFS Afton, WY  
Laura Olofson to Afton, WY  
Carol Koepcke to Seeley Lake, MT

### ***Another one leaving soon...***

Kathy Tustanowski-Marsh has accepted the position of Comptroller at the Harpers Ferry Center in Harpers Ferry, WV. She will EOD on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

*Denali, cont. from page 2*

sure that's what you've got until safely down. Ann, Colette and Dave watched the winds closely on Denali Pass from camp and decided to bust a move that afternoon. Conditions were reasonably civil when they arrived at the pass at 18,200 feet, so they pushed on. A few more hours of gasping and they were at the top of North America--20,320 feet above sea level.

A few minutes is all it takes to feel the cold soaking in and the energy out. They returned to camp at 17,200 feet at 3 AM on the 13th. A too-short nap later, they pulled up stakes and joined Mike and Bill at 14,200, arriving there at 11:30 PM on the 13th. A too-short sleep there and at 6:45 PM on the 14th we all broke that camp, anxious to get around Windy Corner before it had a chance to shut down with the wind and weather that were threatening. Sneaking by there, we elected to push through the night to the Kahiltna Airstrip at 7,200 feet, arriving at about 9 AM on June 15th. We were on a plane out at noon, hungrily soaking up the sights and smells of green plants and dirt, relieved to no longer need to be tied to each other and to be on warm, dry ground.

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## **ENTERTAINMENT REVIEW**

By Bette Cates

### **Gardiner/Mammoth Community Center:**

Last week's "The Comedy Show" had a 3 day performance and if you didn't see it, PLEASE go and see the next performance they put on whether it's a Comedy or a Play. It was hilarious and kept us laughing all night. Don't miss out on their next show because it's the best entertainment around by all the actors involved. The cast consisted of Kelly Stermitz, Duane Martinz, Bob Evanoff, June and Jay Doolittle, Anne Castillo, Mark Catlier, Tina Clements. Back stage help and wonderful volunteers were Peggy Hoppe, Deb Vandersnick and Barbara Agle and board members.

### **Firehouse 5 Playhouse, Livingston:**

"Vaudeville Comedy Spectacular" featuring "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Scarlet Speckled Herring" was another great show and the singing is fantastic by all the actors. Well worth the drive to Livingston, located by the Buffalo Jump and Rosa's pizza. Star performance by Yellowstone's own Jeneva Plumb from the NPS Administration building, what a fantastic voice she has.



## Yellowstone Peer Awards

**Ashley Nelson** - North Entrance VUA  
**Leigh Anne Dunworth** - Outdoor Recreation Planner  
**Maurine Hinckley-Cole** - YCR Administrative Assistant  
**Bob Greenburg** - Fishing Bridge VIP (Interpretation)  
**Judi Mihan** - North District Clerk  
**Amy Moldenhauer** - West District Clerk  
**Kim West** - South District Clerk  
**Georgia McAdams** - Structural Fire Clerk  
**Rob Heinis** - Mammoth Electrician  
**Kirby Barford** - Mammoth Roads and Grounds Supervisor  
**Kurt Olofson** - Mammoth Roads and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor  
**Lyn Roberts** - Mammoth Engineering Equipment Operator

## Institute Courses at Half Price for NPS Employees

The Yellowstone Association Institute offers a 50% discount to all park employees and their immediate families (spouse and children) for field seminar and backpacking courses that have openings within 30 days of the start date. This is a great way to broaden your knowledge of anything park-related, from wolves to wildflowers, raptors to thermophiles, or bears to waterfalls. Courses are taught by college professors, research scientists, park staff, and other experts. There may still be a few spaces in the upcoming courses listed below if you move quickly! Please call our Registrar at 307-344-2294 to register or request a complete course catalog. For more information about the Institute, visit our website at: [www.yellowstoneassociation.org](http://www.yellowstoneassociation.org) and click on "The Institute".

Start Date	Course Name
7/30/04	Fly-Fishing the Catch & Release Way - Less Experienced
7/30/04	Day Hiking the Yellowstone Lake Area
7/31/04	Old Times at Old Faithful
7/31/04	The Bison of Yellowstone
7/31/04	Fly-Fishing For Women II
8/1/04	Map, Compass, GPS & Stars Across Yellowstone
8/3/04	The Fur Trade in Yellowstone
8/4/04	Ripple Effect: The Ecology of Wolf Restoration
8/6/04	Shaping the Northern Yellowstone Landscape
8/6/04	Day Hiking the Old Faithful Area
8/7/04	Yellowstone's Home Town: Mammoth Hot Springs
8/8/04	Introduction to Mammal Tracking
8/8/04	Heart Lake Women's Backpack
8/8/04	Deep Discoveries in Yellowstone Lake
8/9/04	Introduction to Yellowstone Backpacking - Canyon
8/13/04	Day Hiking the Cascade Corner

## Summer Road Work

After the mudslide cleanup is complete, the East Entrance road will re-open to through traffic Saturday, July 24 at 8:00 a.m.

The nighttime construction closures and daytime construction delays on the East Entrance road begin Sunday evening, July 25th.

The construction closures will be in effect Sunday through Wednesday evenings from 8:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m. A chart with a day-by-day breakdown of the closures is attached.

The barricade is at Sylvan Lake, 16 miles east of Fishing Bridge. In the evening, travelers must be past Sylvan Lake by 8:00 p.m. or they will face a 6-hour detour to Cody.

Many people will think that if they reach the East Entrance Road at Fishing Bridge by 8:00 p.m. they will be in time. This is not the case! They will be turned around and advised of the lengthy detour.

Sub-District and Entrance Station Ranger Staff are advised to post the East Entrance Road Closed signs every Sunday morning and take them down every Thursday morning. When the next phase of the road construction is awarded, we will return to the nightly closure. We will be given 14 days before this happens.

## Computer Corner

Whenever you see the Windows Update icon in your system tray (that is, down by the clock in the lower right corner) please install the updates as soon as you can. These updates work in conjunction with our anti-virus software to protect each computer from viruses. The updates should only take a few minutes, and a reboot may be required when the install finishes. This may sound inconvenient, but those of you who have had a virus can attest to how much trouble they can be.

Periodically Region requires us to ensure the updates are installed. They have suggested that in the future, non-updated computers would not be allowed to use the network. This means a loss of most printers, file sharing, automated backups, email, and the internet.

Thank you,  
-Roger Whiteside  
Yellowstone IT Specialist

## ***A Long Time Love Affair with Gardiner/Yellowstone***



Celebrating a tradition that goes back eighteen years, nine anglers from Pennsylvania arrived again in Gardiner for what they call "Ronnyvous 2004". The group originated with 4 keystone school teachers in 1987, all graduates of the same college and faculty members of the same Pennsylvania High School. All have been friends of Matt Minch, a Pennsylvanian long ago transplanted to the West. Over the years the number grew as friends and relatives have been added to the group. Sadly, three of the group have passed on, and each year the trip starts out with a toast to those men – Paul Strzelecki, Joe Rettew, and Lyn Sorber. In all, over 30 people can claim membership in the "Pennsylvania Guys" (aka: PA Guys). This year two of the original four – Mike Lunn and Bob Ballantyne have been joined by Butch Worrall, Steve Kourtz, Bob Grissinger, Mike Kline, Jack "Gunny" Schroyer, Skip Arbogast, and Harry Weigner. Trish Kourtz, Steve's wife and Butch's daughter was along for part of the trip. The group considers Gardiner its home away from home, and one day after returning to Pennsylvania talk will be of "Ronnyvous 2005".



**On Wednesday, July 28, 2004, the folks from CRO (Chief Rangers Office) moved from their old location in Building 36 to their new location in Building 38. Don't look for them on the 2nd floor anymore. . .except maybe Margie.**

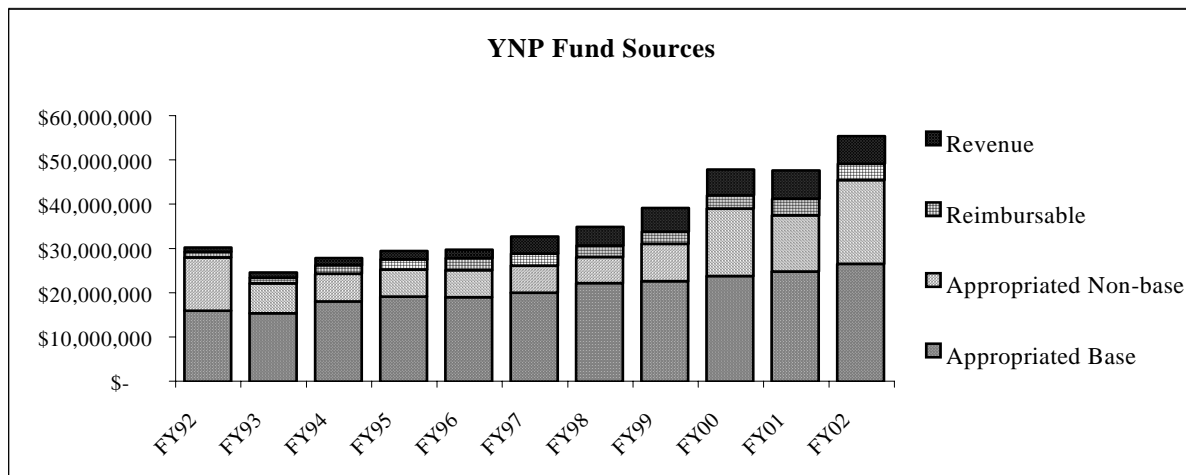
## NORRIS RANGER MUSEUM VOLUNTEER STAFF

Name	Work Dates	Move In	Move Out
Frank Weingart	7/30 – 8/10	7/29	8/11
Don and Linda McGee	8/2 – 8/13	8/1	8/14
Ben and Jane Zerby	8/13 – 8/24	8/12	8/25
Bob and Anita Peterson	8/16 – 8/27	8/15	8/28
Glenn Clark	8/27 – 9/7	8/26	9/8
Bruce and June Freet	8/30 – 9/10	8/29	9/11
Judith and Joseph Winklemann	9/10 – 9/21	9/9	9/22
Clark Dixon	9/13 – 9/30	9/12	10/1

## DID YOU KNOW?

Activities at Yellowstone are funded from four sources:

- 1) **Congressionally appropriated base funds** intended for day-to-day park operations;
  - 2) **Congressionally appropriated non-base funds** intended for one-time programs such as research studies or major construction projects (e.g., the Federal Lands Highway Program);
  - 3) **Revenue** generated from a variety of park and concessioner fees, donations, etc., and;
- Reimbursable funds** (e.g., fees paid to the park for services rendered, such as concessioner utility bills, employee housing costs, and mutual aid that provides services to gateway communities.)



In the above graphic, several trends are noteworthy. Since 1993, non-base funding (“project money”) has increased relative to the overall budget. In turn, the park has seen a relative decline in base funding (for day-to-day operations). 1997 marks the beginning of Yellowstone’s implementation of the Fee Demonstration Program. Since then, revenue has provided funding for a greater share of park expenditures. Understanding these trends allows Yellowstone’s management team to make educated decisions with an eye on the future.

More on how Yellowstone spends its money in the next newsletter. If you’re curious about any related topics, feel free to call 344-2070 or email [steve\\_bruner@nps.gov](mailto:steve_bruner@nps.gov) with questions.

***Check us out at: [www.nps.gov/yell/newsletter.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/yell/newsletter.pdf)***



Photos taken of the mud slide area on July 18, 2004. The slide area was on Sylvan Pass on the East Entrance Road in Yellowstone National Park.



30-thousand tons of mud, rock and debris that covered a 3/4 mile section of road east of Sylvan Pass has been removed. The road was re-opened to the public on July 24<sup>th</sup>.



## Yellowstone Music Festival

September 5, 2004

Arch Park - Gardiner, Montana

[www.YellowstoneMusicFest.com](http://www.YellowstoneMusicFest.com)

Catie Curtis Steppin' in It  
Sol Congress  
The Sibley's Erik Koskinen

Electric Peak  
Arts Council



Flying Pig

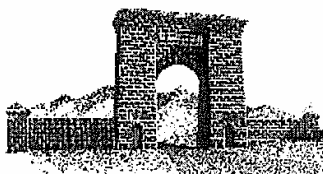


Camp Store and Rafting



**The Yellowstone Music Festival** in Gardiner, MT will host national, regional, and local music acts on September 5, in the Arch Park at the North Entrance to Yellowstone National Park. Folk, bluegrass, blues, cajun, and other roots based music will be performed throughout the day from 11am-dark, featuring folk rock diva Catie Curtis from Boston, acoustic roots masters Steppin in It and Erik Koskinen from Michigan, The Sibley's from Jackson, Sol Congress from Bozeman, Jenny Lynn Golding, Deb Guernsey, and many other local acts. The Yellowstone Music Festival sponsors include the Gardiner Chamber of Commerce, Electric Peak Arts Council, and Flying Pig Camp Store and Rafting. Festival Patrons include Grand Teton Brewing Company and Music Villa. Festival Friends include Crossroads Construction, Silvergate General Store and Cabins, Naturalist Afield, Jon-Mikel Pardo, and Page Makers. Tickets are \$20, \$18 in advance, kids under 12 free. Tickets are for sale at the Silvertip Bookstore and the Gardiner Chamber of Commerce. Volunteers and vendors still needed! For more information call (406) 848-7971 or visit [www.YellowstoneMusicFest.com](http://www.YellowstoneMusicFest.com)

# ***GARDINER ARCH PARK***



## **EVENING PROGRAMS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>By</b>
Jul 24	Truman Everts	Greg Gordon
Jul 29	Fishing Yellowstone	Richard Parks
Jul 30	Ghosts of the Prairie	Bill Edwards
Aug 03	Buffalo of Yellowstone	George Nell
Aug 04	Wolves of Yellowstone	Bill Wengeler
Aug 13	Fishing Yellowstone	Richard Parks
Aug 17	Butterflies	George Bumann
Aug 18	Bears of Yellowstone	National Park Service
Aug 21	Star Talk	Montana Astronomical Society
Aug 24	Buffalo of Yellowstone	George Nell
Aug 31	Heritage Research Center	Colleen Curry

**PROGRAMS START AT 8:30 PM**

**Arch Park Pavilion ~ Public Invited**

**Sponsored by the  
Gardiner Chamber of Commerce**



# BIG FISH CONTEST & OLD TIME FISH FRY



August 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> 2004

For Reservations and Information Contact:

[WWW.COOKECITYCHAMBER.COM](http://WWW.COOKECITYCHAMBER.COM)

OR VISIT

THE COOKE CITY CHAMBER

SPONSORED BY CCCC  
FUNDING FOR THE NEW COMMUNITY CENTER  
CHAMBER AND MUSEUM